

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
CITY OF LOWELL

In City Council

RESOLUTION

To promote clean energy and reduce fossil fuel use, including but not limited to municipal solar projects, energy efficiency upgrades, community choice aggregation, municipal fleet replacement, installing public electric vehicle charging stations, promoting and participating in community solar projects and prioritizing public transportation.

Mass Power Forward, a coalition of dozens of leading environmental and community development organizations, clean energy businesses, faith groups, and neighborhood health and safety advocates, has called upon cities and towns to support its platform to accelerate the transition to 100% clean, renewable energy by reducing dependence on fossil fuels; and

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts is heavily reliant on energy that comes from fossil fuels that pollute our air, water and alter our climate; and

Massachusetts communities are already feeling the impacts of climate change in rising temperatures, increased risk of flooding, and more intense and frequent storms, as described in the recently completed Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment; and

The City of Lowell is working diligently to reduce its carbon emissions and to promote clean energy, including participating in the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources Green Communities Program, supporting private and public solar installations, promoting electric vehicles, providing access to residential and commercial clean energy through the Lowell Community Choice Power Supply Program; promoting wind energy through our wind ordinance, promoting best practices through The Lowell Sustainability Council's Green Awards Program, and converting to LED streetlights, among other efforts; and

Clean energy production brings many benefits to Massachusetts, including reducing pollution, creating tens of thousands of clean energy jobs, and retaining more of our energy dollars in the local economy; and

Lowell has been a leader in the fight against global warming, and has a responsibility to continue to set a positive example for other towns and cities to follow; and

Massachusetts can source 100% of its energy from clean, renewable sources by harnessing its abundant solar and wind resources, and taking advantage of innovations in energy efficiency, green transportation, energy storage, and other technologies; and

The transition to 100% renewable energy will promote employment opportunities and economic growth in our communities, facilitate local control and ownership over energy options, and bring tangible benefits to low-income residents and others who have historically been disadvantaged by our energy system.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOWELL, as follows:

That the City Council go on record urging the Lowell Legislative Delegation in the State Legislature to do everything in its power to bring Massachusetts closer to 100% renewable energy by 2035, and ensure that the benefits of renewable energy are realized by Massachusetts residents from all walks of life; and further

That the City Council go on record supporting a goal of using 100% clean and renewable energy in Lowell, including in building energy use and transportation, by 2035;

That the City of Lowell will continue to take concrete actions to promote clean energy and reduce fossil fuel use, including but not limited to municipal solar projects, energy efficiency upgrades, community choice aggregation, municipal fleet replacement, installing public electric vehicle charging stations, promoting and participating in community solar projects and prioritizing public transportation; and

That the City of Lowell City Council commit to the promotion of clean energy and reduce fossil fuel use, including but not limited to municipal solar projects, energy efficiency upgrades, community choice aggregation, municipal fleet replacement, installing public electric vehicle charging stations, promoting and participating in community solar projects and prioritizing public transportation.

This resolution is adopted by vote of the City Council on the ___ day of August, 2017.

Submitted by:

CITY COUNCIL - CITY OF LOWELL

/s/Edward J. Kennedy
Mayor Edward J. Kennedy.

/s/Corey A. Belanger
Corey A. Belanger

/s/Rodney M. Elliott
Rodney M. Elliott

/s/John J. Leahy
John J. Leahy

/s/James Leary
James Leary

/s/Rita M. Mercier
Rita M. Mercier

/s/James Milinazzo
James Milinazzo

/s/Daniel P. Rourke
Daniel P. Rourke

/s/William Samaras
William Samaras

Resolution2017/renewable